



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8**

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Ref: 8EPR-N

Mr. Terry J. Rosapep
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration, Region 8
12300 West Dakota Avenue, Suite 310
Lakewood, CO 80228-2583

Mr. Michael A. Allegra
General Manager
Utah Transit Authority
669 West 200 South
Salt Lake City, UT 84101

Re: Draper Transit Corridor Project FEIS
Salt Lake County, UT
CEQ # 20100267

Dear Mr. Rosapep and Mr. Allegra,

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 8 has reviewed the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Draper Transit Corridor Project in accordance with EPA's responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. Section 4321, *et seq.*, and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 7609. This FEIS was prepared by the Utah Transit Authority (UTA) for the Federal Transit Administration to analyze the potential environmental effects of extending light rail from the existing Sandy Civic Center 10000 South Station of the UTA's TRAX North-South Light-Rail Transit line 8.2 miles south to Point of the Mountain at about 14600 South in Salt Lake County, UT.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The UTA is proposing this light rail extension to provide an efficient, safe, economical, and balanced transportation system that would complement the community's development patterns. Because the capital cost of the full build extension exceeds the UTA FrontLines 2015 funding resources, a phased approach was considered as well as the full build alternative. The logical terminus for the first phase was determined to be Draper Town Center near 12400 South. The two build alternatives follow an alignment within the existing UTA right-of-way, portions of which are shared with the Utah Railway Company. The project would include three new stations

with the Preferred Alternative (Alternative C – MOS) and five new stations with the other build alternative (Alternative C – Full Build). The No-Action and Transportation System Management alternatives were also analyzed.

EPA CONCERNS

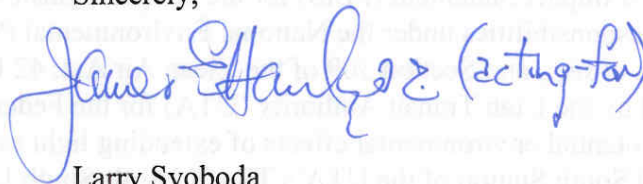
In our comment letter on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Draper Transit Corridor Project dated January 29, 2010, EPA focused on concerns about air quality, greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and noise impacts and made recommendations for adding information to the FEIS. EPA believes that the air quality comments were sufficiently addressed in the FEIS and appreciates that the list of mitigation measures for both PM dust issues and diesel construction equipment emissions were added.

EPA was also pleased to see the expanded discussion on GHGs, which addressed emissions displaced by transit as well as emissions produced by transit. In addition, a table showing the estimated indirect GHG emissions for the No-Action and Alternative C – Full Build alternatives was added to the analysis.

Regarding noise issues, EPA appreciates that: (1) three noise barriers were added to the project although they did not meet UDOT “feasible” guidelines as they do not benefit more than 75 percent of the first-row receivers, and (2) the remaining five sites under the Preferred Alternative that still will have severe noise impacts will be offered sound insulation, including caulking and sealing gaps in the building façade and installing new doors and windows that are specially designed to meet acoustical transmission-loss requirements.

Thank you for addressing EPA concerns in the Draper Transit Corridor Project FEIS and for the opportunity to provide comments. If you have any questions, please contact me at 303-312-6004 or the lead reviewer of this project, Carol Anderson, at 303-312-6058.

Sincerely,



Larry Svoboda
Director, NEPA Compliance and Review Program
Office of Ecosystems Protection and Remediation

cc: Kristen Kenyon, Federal Transit Administration, Region 8
Aaron Mentzer, Utah Transit Authority